

Bristol Dec. 21st 1854

Dear Friend May.

I don't know, now is it essential whether it is your turn to write on mine. I can send you this note in my envelope to my family, and wish ~~just~~ to add to what has already gone that the Empire, George Thompson's paper does not give a very full report of the London Conference Proceedings. Mr. Thompson never made the "Eloquent Tribute" speech ascribed to him at all. It was very common place talk indeed, & he was not on his feet at the time over the Minutes. But the most unfair thing was that they should leave out all I said about the Quakers. Sturge had called me off from Mr. Bishop's Mendonist & begged I should go to the American Churches. I told him I would, & would be gone with his own denomination. Then I overhauled the Indiana Yearly Meeting & Henry Clay, the Whiggism of American Quakerism, the support of Slave Owners & Nations like Garrison

Taylor, Scott & their like, and
spoke nearly half an hour on that
one topic. Then I told them to send
their deputations to these recreant
heads of their own Church in-
stead of to the President & Governors,
who really had no more power to abo-
lish slavery than they had themselves.
I gave my remarks a rather good
natured turn, and they were ad-
mirably received. But not one
allusion to them is made in the
Empire. They have quoted me at some
length in the American Board of
Com. but not a word about
America & Quakers. This is the Free
dom of the Empire. My friends were
much pleased at my exposure of the
Quakers, British & Foreign. They
said the like had never been sto-
ken there before, & that no report
would get into any paper, under
Sturge & Quaker control. And
sure enough hitherto none has.
I was never in so embarrassing
a place before. But that far, all
our real friends, give me great
credit for the course I have pursued.

We are all doing what we can
to make the Advocate Report of the
Conference as full & perfect as pos-
sible - Mr. Jones, Mr. Bishop, Mrs.
Morse of Manchester and myself
are contributing our aid - &
we intend as far as possible, to
have all see what each does
before it goes to press - I think you
will get a very accurate account
in the Advocate - And I do not
think you will anywhere else -

I wrote a sketch of the pro-
ceedings to Mrs. Chapman as soon
as my health would allow, after
my account to My Mary - I am
hoping to hear from her soon. We
are ~~asleep~~ as you must suppose, in
the dumps of sorrow at George Thompson's
course - and all ~~the~~ the more, that
he keeps us in the dark about
all his plans and prospects - He
took no notice of me, or our few
friends at the Conference. He has
written no word to Dublin, to Edin-
burgh, to Manchester, or Glasgow, or
to Bristol. So Miss Estlin is as much as well

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dared at the rest. We have our line
that he wrote to Wm. Smale in which
he says he has concluded "to accept
the Olive Branch held out by Broad
Sturt - feeling that he could do so with-
out any compromise" - so you see, we
hardly know whether he is for us or against
us - Chamerovsow too has left correspon-
ding with Miss Estlin of late. His letters
heretofore have been neither few nor
very brief - It seems as though New
Broad St. thinks it has got all now
that it really needs or can have
for, and is now content.

I have this moment received a line
from Mrs. Chapman - you would smile at the
ideal view she takes of Broad Sturt, Thayer &
Thompson. She thinks Thompson will de-
rive no benefit from his new alliance
& that it won't last long, and she thinks
his defection dates back a year, when he
praised Sturge in order to get into Quaker
theatricals - She rather wonders that
I should have gone near their conference in
London - I but I thought she rather fa-
vored my attending their anniversary
just now when I was indifferent about it.

those Broad St. ligots when they
never were before - at the bar for
trial - We set their sins, & scabbles
too in order before their eyes - We
weighed them in the balance & found
them wanting - And their own si-
lence proclaimed their condemna-
tion - They are hypocrites, & they know it;
& they know that we know it too.
What the Empire may do, what Jayce
Thompson may do, time will show.
But they can do us no harm - and
that is all we need now care for.

Mrs. Chapman thinks we should
have secured Thompson two or three
years ago, & taken him to the Uni-
ted States - In this opinion, she is not
supported by all here - perhaps by but
few - He will doubtless be writing some
of you soon on the subject -

Pardon my haste - I throw
out these few thoughts for your pri-
vate reading, or to show to any one
else - My letter to my wife ran on beyond
my expectation - It should have been sent
to you. But Mr. Bishop was to write
a Report & that left me free - With love to you
& yours - I subscribe - as ever - Parker Pillsbury.

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The conference was called
on very Catholic grounds. Mr. [unclear]
own friends were several of them
particularly invited. The Lady in Leeds
offered 20 £. to pay expenses of Lady
Delegates if any would go. Some
volunteered & were at once commis-
sioned. The Northern League
at Manchester, on the first of Aug
appointed a strong delegation
George Thompson, Mr. Chesson
& Rev. Mr. Bishop being a part
of it. Many of our friends here
wished me to go at all events.
Chamerois & Co. in two letters
specially invited me. And last
of all I think than all my own
inclination ^{& judgment} led me there - that
so I went.

And now our friends are
unanimous I think in ap-
proving my decision to attend.
And I think too, as I have al-
ready intimated, they are gen-
erally pleased with my course
in the conference. We put

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But having chosen it, it is not surprising
that its account should be so unfair. Ignoring
totally the admission of lady delegates and publish-
ing no word about the Indiana Quakers or the de-
ings of Wood St. & Scoble in time past. Now does
the Empire make any mention of my resolution upon
the American A. S. Society, & a twenty minutes speech
support of it, which was listened to with deepest atten-
tion. So then according to Mr. Farmer - for
"snubbed" Mr. Thompson. The Liberator has just
come to us with Farmer's letter. Snubbed is
a pretty strong expression.

P.S. How could George Thompson counsel
us to Union with "Broad Street," when he
knew that in their secret counsels there
could be only war? Both Sturge & Forster
told him they never would recognize the
Am. A.S. Society. And he told Mr Sturge in partic-
ular of this quite unequivocally. And that
Broad St. should have chosen the Free Press
as its organ for the Report is very significant.